



# THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

## COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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**Monday, October 1, 2012 6:30 p.m.**

**City Hall**

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**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL**

**All Present**

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

**III. READING OF ITEMS by the City Chamberlain of any resolutions not listed on the printed agenda.**

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three (3) minutes per person up to 45 minutes of public comment on any agenda and non-agenda items.**

**Rashad A. Rahman 22 Montgomery Street-** I am here today to discuss the City Bus issue. I believe we need both City Bus and County Loop Bus. Senior citizens will be affected in getting to the stores and college students will be affected on the north side. We need all of the buses. People need choices. You don't want to be stuck with one choice. I take both City and Loop bus.

**Valdemar DuBois, Jr. 66 Washington Street-** City buses are very important. They are on time and are polite.

**Orlando Figuerou 135 Main Street Apt 610.** I am very concerned about the bus situation. I am a senior citizen and because of my medical condition I rely very heavily on the bus for getting to the doctor and picking up prescriptions at a very fair price.

**Nina Head 600Spring Circle-**I live in a senior citizen community. I depend on the City Bus. I take the loop bus to get to work but I depend more on the City Bus. I'm concerned about the future of the kids. They get picked up and taken to school. I believe the vote should be in our favor.

**Constantine Kazolias 47 Noxon Street-** The Ice House has expanded beyond its footprint encroaching into the existing Waryas Park on both east and west. To the east, a permanent building was constructed. To the west, the outside restaurant portion has expanded to the boating dock, as evidenced by an enclosed fence in area with chairs. The outside area alcohol and smoking is permitted, violating a city ordinance. Users of the rest of Waryas Park are subject to arrest. Why the double standard? The ordinance before the council limits smoking in the parking areas which should be passed! It's like being half pregnant. The present exception to the above ordinance, are the two city golf courses, where both smoking and alcohol are permitted by the city ordinance. The FDA refuses to declare nicotine a drug for obvious reasons because it would not be taxed. It's a revenue raiser for all governments. Regarding the seriousness in taking parkland, let's not forget the recent fiasco. The public uproar occurred when the Poughkeepsie School District targeted Lincoln Park for the new proposed constructed school at that time, Lincoln Park site was supported by both sitting Mayor LaFuente and County Legislator Beakly. FYI, taking parkland without adding the same to that which is taken is a violation of NYS law. Talking about health in the city parks, as reported to me by someone who with their young one, uses the Bartlett Park, only to find discarded hypodermic needles. This discourages the usage of said park.

**Alicia Baggatt 159 Washington Street-** I'm here about the City Buses. I rely on the bus. I work for the Poughkeepsie School District. The City bus gets me there on time. The loop bus doesn't cover the areas that the City bus goes. I take both City and Loop Bus. When you are talking about cutting the buses, you are not just cutting the buses from us, you're cutting it from the poor, the middle class and the single mothers who have to walk their kids to schools.

**Eileen Hayden 10 Gaskin Road-** There is a City Charter and it spells out the proper process and procedures for Common Council and Administration. There have been instances of process overlooked and ignored. Voices objecting or calling for transparency are stifled or not heard at all. The County has called for the demolition of the Nelson House because of safety issues. If there is a true emergency, it was caused by the County's dereliction of duty to maintain a county owned structure. But the City is complicit as well for not insisting over these many years that repairs be done to make it structurally sound. Should the building be saved? Can the building be saved? These are the questions for broader community discussion. The current Historic Preservation Commission has several newly appointed members that will meet this week at 5:30, an awkward hour when many are still at work or in transit and the Nelson House is on the agenda. Will the new members be up to speed? Prior commission members had an overview of the preservation ordinance that would have

been helpful for the discussion of this issue. It now rests on the Common Council and the public to raise concerns for the process. I urge the Common Council to request that the Historic Preservation Commission hold a public hearing to discuss the demolition of the Nelson House.

**Nancy Cozean 115 Hooker Avenue-** I had an opportunity to go to College Hill and I want to compliment Councilmember Ann Perry for taking a hands-on approach to clean up the park. It is truly great to have someone working for that wonderful asset. I want to talk about an asset that has been on Market Street for centuries. It is the Nelson House. It is on the local Historic Register despite terrible neglect by Dutchess County. The building continues to be a key presence on Market Street even though some officials have called for its demise. Indeed NY State Office of Historic Preservation says that this doesn't mean that the building has no value or that reasonable measures shouldn't be taken to discern whether the building may still be reusable. In part the case of Preservation of the Nelson House is because of its compelling history. The Nelson House can trace its roots to the Vander Bogart early farm that took in travelers. Steven Hendrickson built the first Inn in 1777. Guests included Governor Clinton, John Jay, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson while he was in NY. New owners changed the name to The Nelson House. Among other notables that used the annex was Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John Dewey- the republican who ran against him, Tom Watson who founded IBM and countless more. However, nowhere has there been any indication that architects with expertise in historic restoration have had an opportunity to actually take a look at the Nelson House as recommended by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. This should have been the first step in determining the value of this building. Building inspectors are not architects, engineers nor planners. The actual use of the building may make a difference in the amount of money required to upgrade or reuse this building. If part of the building can be reused as part of restoration or readaptive use. That should make a difference in the bottom line. The exact cost for demolition has not been spelled out. How many companies were allowed an opportunity to provide an alternative architectural plan by Dutchess County or the City? Only one company was mentioned for their analysis. Wouldn't the façade be saved or other adaptive measures that could be done? On Market Street alone there are numerous examples, The Adriance Library, The Armory, The Poughkeepsie Journal, The Smith Brothers Building, and many others. If you take a look at unattractive buildings on Market Street, overwhelmingly the vote is the County Office Building and I hate to say it, City Hall. The Preservation Committee has been reconstituted but by whom? Do these people actually have a background in historic preservation or do they have other contracts with the City? What procedures will be done to ensure the fairness in the decision making which has just been arranged? The final words of the Office of Parks and Recreation speak for itself: I hope that a careful and balanced analysis of the various aspects of the Nelson House existing condition and integrity has been made with relationship to its potential demolition. I ask you to review the Nelson House team and review these questions along with the Nelson House team. As a member of the team appointed by Dutchess County

Legislature, I hope you will look at these questions and call for a reappointment of team members.

**Christopher LoGiudice 55 Glenwood Avenue-** I have been a resident for 30 years. My concern is that Glenwood is a straight long street. I have been watching people use it as a short cut for years I don't know if it is a spillover from Hooker Ave or maybe there are just too many people there. It is especially bad in the morning. People are dropping kids off at the middle school. People go flying down my street, talking on the cell phone and staring into space. It's a safety concern. I remember years ago a car full of drunken teenagers flipping a Chevy Chevette right in front of my house. That was traumatizing. I have animals buried in my back yard, 6 were mine, 3 belonged to my neighbors. They didn't die of natural causes. They have been run down in the street. The people that hit them didn't stop. To a lot of people that's not a big thing, but I love my animals more than life itself and every time I bury one, it takes a chunk out of me. I just want to appeal to the powers that be that we could stop sign at the intersection of Douglas. That might get people to slow down. There are also of lot own those speed bikes that can go from 0 – 60 in seconds.

**Eusona Tyler 24-26 Academy Street –** My concern is the City buses. We need them. The other day I had a doctor's appointment at St. Francis. At 2:00, I was at Main & Market and I dialed the number for the Loop bus to find out what bus I would be able to take to go down Washington Street. I was told that I would have to take the City bus because the next loop was at 4:45. Why are you discontinuing my bus service? I'm sure that there are many others that have had the same experience. We need both. The loop goes outside of town. The city goes inside. I can't get any clearer than that.

**Arnold Serotsky 188 South Grand-** I applaud the eloquence of everyone who has spoken on so many issues this evening. There has been considerable discussion and some media coverage about the Nelson House situation. It seems as though due to a period of neglect that this historically prominent building may be scheduled for demolition. I'd like to share two concepts that my carpenter father taught me when I was young that we can and should apply to this and many other situations. One is if you fail to plan, you're planning to fail. The other is measure twice, cut once. Speaking as a resident and taxpayer in both the City and the County, before any action is taken on the Nelson House we need to see at least four things. The first is an impartial expert's assessment of the building's condition and associated recommendations with that condition. The second is an analysis comparing the cost of restoration and adaptation with the cost of demolition and rebuilding. The third is the deliberations of appropriate City Chartered Commissions and committee whose responsibility is to rule on actions proposed to historic landmark and guide the City Administration and City Council to making such decisions. I have only been made aware a few days ago that there has been considerable turnover in that commission and that worries me. The fourth thing is the scheduling of a public hearing of the Nelson House situation with sufficient advance notice. I wouldn't want a situation to arise where action is taken hastily and without definitive and objective reasons that if

when questioned by proper authority like a judge or someone from the NY State Attorney General's Office would evoke a response of 'too late, Nelson House is gone.' Consequences of circumventing established objective processes are costly and I would like to add to the editorial in yesterday's Poughkeepsie Journal better plans have ultimately emerged as result. At a recent Walkway meeting, it was suggested that the goal of our City should be to attract tourists from NY City. As someone who grew up in the city and makes frequent visits to NY City, I suggest that we learn from NYC mistakes and success as well as the past mistakes and successes of Poughkeepsie before we take a bull in a china shop approach with issues like the Nelson House.

**Nives Cappelli 6 Wilson Blvd-** Save the Nelson House. I was an historic interpreter in Tarrytown. I used to greet visitors from all over the world. They love to hear all about America, especially the old houses. There is so much for the tourists to see. We must save our historic sites.

**Vanni Cappelli 6 Wilson Blvd-** I am here to protest the proposed demolition of the Nelson House which is one of our great historic sites. A city is more than just a place where people live. It is a place which has an identity. In the case of Poughkeepsie, it is a very strong identity shaped by its historic character in terms of events that have taken place here. Its magnificent architecture that much of which, unfortunately, has been destroyed due to ill-conceived urban renewal programs that have taken place half a century ago. Those losses are irreversible unless someone wants to build there. The most historic part of the Nelson House has been torn down to make that office building which is there. What remains is historic enough to be preserved. There should be a specific public meeting dedicated to this question.

**John Fischer 149 Academy Street-**I am a former chairman of the Historic District and Landmark Preservation Commission. I have served on the commission for a little more than four years. I have been chairman for about two years. I work with homeowners and city staff to update our city ordinance in 2009, 2011 and 2012. Preservation of Poughkeepsie is of great importance to me as a city resident but also as a homeowner in the Academy Street Historic District. On Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> I received a letter from the mayor's office stating that I would not be reappointed in order to give others an opportunity to lend their talents to the commission. At the time I was one of six members of the commission. I am happy to have served my City. Upon receiving the list of new commission members, I became deeply concerned. One commissioner who was appointed at the same time as myself, was still on the list while I was removed. The Academy Street Historic District is no longer represented on the commission. What troubles me more is one of the new appointees has had stop work orders placed on his property for failure to comply with Preservation law that he is now appointed to enforce. The second appointee of great concern is to the best of my knowledge works for a local developing company who has gone on record against preservation law claiming that it would be very detrimental to the City. It is my opinion that these two appointees to the Historic District and Landmark Preservation Commission cannot fulfill the requirement and that they have a known interest in

historic preservation in the City. Suddenly, the County is planning to destroy Nelson House and now the commission has new and inexperienced members. Is this a coincidence? The new historic Ordinance requires monthly meetings. The regular Sept meeting was supposed to be held on Sept 26<sup>th</sup> @7:30. This meeting was not held. Why wasn't it held? It's now scheduled to be this Thursday @ 5:30pm. You should be concerned that Academy Street is not represented. You should be concerned about the demolition of a designated historic landmark in the City of Poughkeepsie.

**Ken Stickle 118 Catharine Street-** What is the rush to tear down the Nelson House? We had the pizzeria taken down by the Up To Date building. That was demolition by neglect by the owner. Now we have demolition by neglect by the County. Stop the procedure. Do not touch that building. There will be a law suit one way or another. I don't smoke but I do know a lot of people who do. These people pay taxes. I can understand your rights to take away rights where there are kids playing. I clean College Hill. I pick up cigarette butts in the park. Until you can get the federal government to take the rights of smokers, then you have no right to say that people can't smoke in the parks. We have a poverty rate and not everyone can afford a car. When you take the buses away from the residents, you just increased the poverty rate. We need to keep this affordable.

**George Bridle 8 Mansion Street-** I am here about absentee landlords. All it is doing is decreasing the value of my property. There is garbage everywhere and high grass. There are over 300 vacant houses that are owned by the City. I call in and complain and nothing happens. All it does is bring down my property value. There is garbage all over the City. We need help.

**Candace Lewis 2 Loockerman Avenue-** I am here to advocate for the Glee House. I have a prepared letter.

Dutchess County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12602  
[dchistorical@verizon.net](mailto:dchistorical@verizon.net)  
845-471-1630

October 1, 2012

Via Hand Delivery to City Hall  
Municipal Building  
62 Civic Center Plaza  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Tel: 845.451.4072

Mr. John Tkazyik, Mayor  
Gwen Johnson, Chair  
Members of the Common Council

Dear Gwen Johnson, Chair, Mayor Tkazyik,  
and Members of the Common Council,

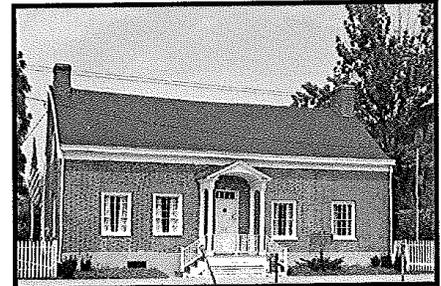
This historic house, originally built in 1767 as a home for the minister of Christ Church, is presently owned by the City of Poughkeepsie and operated as a small museum by the Dutchess County Historical Society. In April, we at the Dutchess County Historical Society wholeheartedly endorsed the effort to allocate \$50,000 towards improvements at the Glebe House, 635 Main Street, for rebuilding the roof and the front portico. The Common Council voted in favor.

- 1) Now that a bid has been accepted for work on the roof, we, at the Society ask to be included in the job meetings to insure the safety and security of the building and its contents.
- 2) As you can see from the photo on this page, the front porch is in a sorry state. It is rotting. The banister, the sole one remaining, has been ripped off and none now exists. This is a dangerous situation. We ask that monies reserved for the Glebe House be used to replace the front portico and, in the meanwhile, a temporary banister be erected. We need a new front portico. The money exists in a dedicated fund as you on the Council were made aware at the last meeting (\$23,000 in addition to the \$50,000 allocation of April 2012).

Finally, let us heed the calendar. It is October, late in the building season and many months since your vote of April 2012. We agree with you that a new portico and new roof both would be great for the Glebe House and Poughkeepsie. Please let's get this project rolling.

Sincerely,

Candace J. Lewis, Ph.D.  
President of the Board  
With Betsy Kopstein-Stuts, Executive Director,  
And the Board of Trustees



The Glebe House, 635 Main Street, as it has looked in the past -- well cared for.



The Glebe House, front portico, view of front steps in poor repair, Summer 2012. By September 2012, banister was gone. Conditions were unsafe. Photo by C. Lewis

**Betsy Kopstein Studs-100 Frost Hill Road-** Executive Director of DC Historical Society. Many people today spoke about the neglect of the Nelson House and where it is today because of the neglect. I urge you not to allow any of the historic homes, in particular, the Gleebe House to get to this stage where they'll start thinking about demolition versus rebuilding, restructuring and looking into it. I am worried that the City could be sued for injury because people go by this and people tend to sit on this porch area and eat lunch and someone could fall and become injured. There is no security whatsoever. The steps are crumbling and as Candace Lewis indicated there isn't a banister anymore. We would appreciate if we could look into a temporary banister or put this out to bid and see if we could put the remaining \$23,000 that's in our account could be allocated to rebuilding the porch. It is quite important that we begin to this. I have lived here all my life. In the 1960's we were the most allocated money for urban renewal. There was never a plan for urban renewal in the 1960's. As a result, they started tearing everything down and haphazardly started building things up. We look at it now and say we could have had all these historic buildings stay and be important to our revitalization of our City which is what we are all concerned about.

**Holly Wahlberg 35 Garfield Place-** Perhaps people have forgotten that Poughkeepsie's beloved Bardavon was once almost demolished or that Poughkeepsie's Railroad Bridge, now known as the celebrated Walkway Over The Hudson, was threatened with demolition, then either left for dead or scorned outright for over 30 years by all but a handful of visionaries. Lucky Platt Department Store, Poughkeepsie's once grand retail icon, quietly rotted for 20 years until the roof caved in along with 3 entire floors. The situation is eerily similar to the Nelson House. Barricades were erected along Main and Academy Streets to protect the public while the City sought to stabilize the building and salvage the historic Lucky Platt façade. Today the building has been returned to the private sector and the tax rolls. In Poughkeepsie's sister city of Newburgh, the west shore train station severely derelict and abandoned for 53 years was rehabbed in 2011 is now a theatre space and restaurant. The derelict Hotel Newburgh was rehabbed in 2006 into 128 apartments, a theatre and an art gallery. Kingston's historic Kirkland Hotel vacant for 20 years and slated to be demolished for a county parking lot in 2001. It was transformed in 2007 into an award winning mixed use rehab. These examples demonstrate that developers who specialize in rehabilitating distressed, historic commercial properties can and do put large and blighted downtown structures back into service with amazing results. The Nelson House presents just such an opportunity. Since County's own consultants make no claim that the building is too far gone to be reused. As Poughkeepsian's, we should not settle for some sad little parking lot plaque that says 'Here once stood' or some new building that's a pale imitation of the real thing that may never be built. We could instead let this landmark have at least a chance to be marketed to the private sector and returned to the tax rolls. Demolition by neglect is a self-created hardship that must not be rewarded. I'm asking the City Council to step forward and make sure that the City's Preservation Law is truly followed and that a fair public hearing on this matter be held by the Preservation

Commission. This building deserves at least that much before be brutally and stupidly sent to a landfill.

**John Mylod Beechwood Avenue-** In regard to the proposed demolition of Nelson House and Annex, I have two words, The Bardavon. Going down some 40 years since The Bardavon was on the chopping block we hear many of the same excuses for demolition: the building is unsafe, it's too far gone to rehabilitate, we need parking space on Market Street, it will cost too much to repair. Building by building our history slips away. It happened to at Southwood, the historic Kinkade Mansion on Rt 9. It was demolished on a holiday weekend a few years ago and the excuse cited was that it was unsafe. That's not the case with the Nelson House. Sure there is deterioration and water damage, but even the County consultants could not say categorically that the building must be demolished immediately or even at all. They give advice to the County to stabilize and take safety precautions, whether or not it's demolished or slated for rehabilitation. While it may not be used for the County, give some private entity the chance to rehabilitate the Nelson House and put it back on the tax rolls. The County has apparently not tried to market the building. Moreover, the County has applied for a review of the proposed demolition by the City's Historic Preservation Committee. That process must be given ample time to thoroughly review the proposal and to carry out the spirit and the letter of the Historic Preservation Law. The County must not be allowed to act hastily. Although it claims it doesn't need any approval from the City. I encourage you to pass a motion tonight to censor the Council, if you will, that this body clearly urges the commission to hold a public hearing on the Nelson House issue to carry out its responsibilities with due diligence and transparency. The County received reports from its consultants in March, May & June. It took them three months to decide that public safety was an issue. The collapse of the building is not imminent anymore than The Bardavon should have been demolished. Obviously, progressives in the community stepped forward and said we can do better and they did. The Bardavon is a treasure. Unilateral decisions by the County without Common Council knowledge or input is not in the best interest of the City. I urge you to defend our Historic Preservation Law.

**Virginia Hancock 26 Loockerman Avenue-** How could conditions have changed so drastically since the Nelson House was last discussed? Suddenly, according to a newspaper article, stuff is falling off on the pedestrian area below and a tree of heaven or alantiss, can be seen from the window growing inside. So now the building is dangerous and must be demolished quickly. Have experienced historic preservation people been called in to be a part of this quick decision? If the County plans to spend \$2 million for the demolition surely, the National Trust for Historic Preservation or Preservation League NY, could be called upon to give their unbiased opinion. In the paper where we read that we want to do things to bring people to Poughkeepsie, to bring tourists to Poughkeepsie, we have the Walkway. If the downtown looks as it does presently, we're not going to see tourist coming here when they see that we're not taking care of what we have. This city looks the worst that I

have ever seen it. I have lived here for 38 years and have been involved. We're not going to see people coming here. We have to do better.

**Barbara Thestrup 66 Washington Street-** I use the City bus a couple of times a day, 6 days a week. City buses go to the supermarket door. The bus drivers are nice and friendly. I would like you to keep the City bus.

**Kevin Newman 2 Mack Road** – Our elected officials and policy makers should not sever the ties of transportation to jobs. Several people that I see on the bus are taking the bus to their jobs. Many can't afford to buy cars, which is costly or take taxis. I want to remind the Council that this is the year 2012 not 1962 and jobs and transit are very important in this country. People have to have a way to get to their jobs and medical appointments. We can't sever this vital transportation link. In the City of Beacon was suddenly left without a transportation link from the train station to the downtown area. They have to walk up the hill. Instead of doing away with the link in the City of Poughkeepsie, we should be looking at ways to get additional funding to increase bus routes. The Map 21 Transportation Bill has been put into effect and the state has opted into this. Maybe there is some funding available through that to subsidize and expand our bus system. Then maybe tourist would come on weekends to see all of our historic sites that have been preserved. In 2012 we can't be thinking about doing away with transportation, we should be thinking about increasing transportation.

**Donna Mazzio 135 Main Street-** I am a passenger on the Poughkeepsie City bus system 6 days a week to get to work and grocery shopping. The only way that I can get to work, grocery shopping and the hospital and doctor is the Poughkeepsie City Bus system. The drivers are always courteous and very professional.

**Shabazz Jackson (Greenway Environmental Services located at Vassar Farm)**  
I'm here to speak to you today about our operation. Today we had the second to the last meeting with Vassar College and the DEC about the closure of the site. We have been there for 10 years and have developed a number of innovate systems that really take the nuisance out of composting. During our time at Vassar, we processed all the materials that have been left there over the years. That site now looks like a 4 acre parking lot. When we are completely done, it will look like an ecological preserve. We are looking to move our operation to the City. Right now the way we manage and think about solid waste has gone through a revolutionary change. It's not even called solid waste anymore at the state level. It's called materials management. The goal going into the future is to recover over 75% of our material that is currently going to the incinerator or being disposed into a number of places. The development of our systems is very timely. We have solved the odor problems. We have created a series of products that are green innovation products, such as green roof medium. These products are the materials that are going to create the jobs of the future. We would like to make Poughkeepsie our headquarters. We have been here for 10 years. We have stood the test of time.

**Mae Francis Moore 11 Muldowney Circle-** I just moved here in 2011. I don't know any of your names. I don't know the mayor's name. I know the bus drivers. All elected figures, do you know that the bus drivers represent you? The main street bus comes into Corlies. When I moved here, I met all the bus drivers and they all helped me. Each one of these buses helps me get around. The drivers are nice, courteous and are concerned. My daughter got sick and was lost. I couldn't find her. I called the police. I asked the bus drivers for help. When they saw her and talked to her. Even now they look out for her. They don't have to do this. If you stop the buses, then I have to go back to what I used to do and that is stay home. Why can't there be bus service on Sundays for people to go to church? There are handicapped people, senior citizens and children that take the bus.

**John Morbella 139 Hooker Avenue-** Is there is a possibility of a bus strike? I realize that the City needs to save money, but it needs to look in other directions.

**Doug Nobelitti 145 Academy Street-** If they want a loop bus and they now run down Academy Street where sadly they are not needed. Several years ago the street was paved and the County decided to change the bus route. When they were questioned about it, they said it was their choice to change the route. They chose to run on the smooth street. There are very few people on Academy that need it. I'm sorry that it is more inconvenient for those of you that actually need it. We don't need it on Academy. It used to run on South Avenue where it is more densely populated and it had the potential to serve more people and it's only one block away. I moved here 15 years ago and saw potential and a reason to invest in this community. I brought property on Main Street. I thought I could do something to help the community and help myself in the long term. I had a good friend, Peter Max who came to the City. I introduced him to the administration at the time. He was going to look at and develop the Lucky Platt building. We saw great potential for the City. Unfortunately, it had the same problem as the Nelson House, the roof became the reason why that project failed. The City had been sitting on money and did not want to invest it in the roof. \$750,000 that the Council of the day had sat on for several years and it being an election year, they didn't want to throw it into a potential parking lot would later be torn down. Peter Max was given a contract which in executive session had a clause in it that said we're going to give you the \$750,000, you're going to put a roof on it and you are going to develop the building. As a result, the contract then said if you could not get the financing, then you would give us back the building and you would owe us the \$750,000. Which meant the City got a free ride of \$750,000 on the roof. Former Councilmember Rita McNiff confirmed this. The potential what could have happened for Lucky Platt and the revitalization of downtown was great. I continue to purchase properties and invest downtown to try and make something better for the community. I restored the original Lucky Platt, 328 Main Street. I am dismayed that there is heroin dealing across the street. Buildings that are key and critical in the fabric of the community are destined to be torn down. I can tell you the ones that should be torn down are the 1970's boxes that populate all the infill are the ones that are full of mold and drop ceilings and made of cinderblock. They should be torn down. One of them would make a good office

building and dormitory. I recommend that you preserve your assets rather than losing them.

**Susan Ziemer 1 Verrazano Blvd-** I know it is important about the Nelson House. It's also important about the bus system. People really do need the buses. All the DPW workers work hard for the City. We really shouldn't privatize anything. I know the economy is tough and there might be layoffs. If these guys know that their jobs are there and they are hard workers. If we take them out of the City, they won't spend their paychecks in the City and they won't stay in the City. We should not privatize anything and the buses should be here for all those that need them

**Shirley Davis 20 North Perry Street-** Please do not take those buses away. I am 76 years old and I need a bus. Sometimes when I'm home, I have nothing to do. Sometimes I get on the bus just to say that I have been somewhere. Please do not take the buses from us.

**Sean Harding 36 Glenwood Avenue-** I'd like to talk about the safety issues on Glenwood. I'd like to commend Chairwoman Johnson for putting stop signs at Douglas & College and Willow & Meyer, and those seem to work. Councilmember Hermann suggested in the past to put up speed sign. That couldn't be done because the bracket was broken and there wasn't money to fix it. I suggest we put up a three-way stop and that would solve the problem. I hope the City moves on that. There are a lot of kids and animals in the neighborhood. I don't even like to park my car in the street. I would also like to talk about the smoking ordinance. I was a little league coach at Spratt Park for a number of years. I understand why we moved it to the parking lot which I know Mayor Tkazyik vetoed at the moment. One thing I don't agree with is dropping the fine. If we're going to give you an inch and let you smoke in the parking lot and you're still not going to listen and go into the park and have a cigarette, you should get a ticket. \$100 to \$1000 is a revenue generator. Corporation Counsel has told us that we can bring people to city court on this. We also need to update parking fines. I know we try to be user friendly in the business district and Main. I don't know when the last time this was updated. If you are blocking a fire hydrant it's only a \$25 fine. If you park in a permit parking zone, such as down by Vassar or Parker Ave, the fee is \$50. It's a safety issue. We should try to bring in more revenue. We should raise the fines and hire another parking enforcement officer for evenings and weekends. It should be vigorously enforced.

**Roxie Johnson 18 Center Street-** I work at Stop & Shop. I depend on the bus every day. Without the buses I can't get to work. On Sundays I pay \$14 to get back and forth to work. I can't do that every. Sometimes I only work 4 hours a day. It's only hurting the people who are trying to survive. I don't have a car. I can't afford it. Buses get me back and forth to work. Please do not get rid of the buses. It would be a trickle-down effect for most people. I wouldn't be able to get to work. I would lose my job. I wouldn't be able to pay my rent.

**Gail Thirst 135 Main Street**-I was born and raised here in Poughkeepsie. I have seen it go down the tubes. I have seen the deterioration of many buildings that could have been preserved. I have watched the Dayline System, which was a fantastic little tour boat that came up the river and stop where Waryas Park is now. There used to be a covered dock there. The City said no to repairing it. Dayline System said either repair it or we don't come up there anymore. The boat doesn't come anymore. There is no reason to save a penny and destroy the things that this City was built on. When I was young, Main Street used to be crowded with shoppers. During the holidays, there was music playing. It was fantastic. I am so proud of this City and I love it. I love the river. You can't even walk on the sidewalks without worrying that you're going to fall. They're in horrible condition. They are all cracked and are coming up. It really upsets me. I use the bus for all my doctor's appointments. I can't afford taxi. I remember the Nelson House when I was a child. There was a big picture window and you could see people inside, reading the papers. It was such a nice atmosphere. What are we thinking about? What will the history be? If you take it away, there won't be any left.

**Councilmember Boyd**, motion to suspend the rules to allow Bruce Dooris to speak for 5 minutes, **Councilmember Rich** seconded the motion.

**Bruce Dooris** - We all know that there are economic hard times. CSEA has lost 30 employees and no longer have temporary employees. Every department has been affected. The remaining employees have taken on additional responsibilities. All overtime has to be approved. Snow plow routes have been downsized. There's a rumor about sanitation being privatized. Sanitation workers do more than just pick up garbage. City bus should be available to those who can't afford cars. People need to be able to get to work, shopping and doctors.

**Councilmember Boyd** motion to resume the rules, **Councilmember Rich** seconded the motion.

**Councilmember Rich** motion for a 5 minute recess **Councilmember Boyd** seconded the motion.

## V. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

**Mayor Tkazyik** – Thank you members of the public for coming tonight we appreciate all your comments regarding the City. I want to thank the public for taking the time to come to Council meetings. It's great to see a large number of workers, as well as residents, taxpayers to come out to these public meetings. It's very important to be heard and exercise your right to be heard. I would like to commend the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department in conjunction with the FBI on a heroin distribution ring arrest this past Thursday. Twelve individuals were arrested on Main Street at the Boost Mobile Store. This clearly sends a message to these criminals that this activity will not be tolerated and that we will not only use our

own resources but others. This investigation had been going for the past year and a half with the Safe Street Task Force, also known as the Gang Task Force. This investigation has been going on since January of last year. I would like to commend all those involved, US Attorney, FBI, Sheriff's Dept., and our own Poughkeepsie's Finest for this job well done. Again, ridding our streets of the crime that is plaguing the quality of life around us. I would like to commend the Police for this heroin distribution ring break up that occurred this past week. I would like to rephrase what I said at last week's meeting and again back in January's State of the City address. The county and city are conducting a study to look at a unified mass transit system. We are not looking to eliminate bus service in the City. We are looking at ways to enhance, maintain and preserve mass transit in the future. Many people spoke about FTA and DOT funding from the State and Federal Government. Those are the types of additional things that we are looking at if we share service together and if we were united. That is all that is taking place at this time. Bus service elimination is not on the table. I want to make that clear. I appreciate everyone coming out and voicing their concern. We are looking at a unified mass transit system. That's why the City and the County are conducting this study. I announced this study in January 2012. This is nothing new to the City Council. We appreciate your input. We need your input. It is very informative to us. Thank you for coming out and making your voices heard because we know many of you depend on public transportation and mass transit. Thank you for coming out. I would like to reiterate, the City of Poughkeepsie does not own or operate the Nelson House. I appreciate everyone who came out and spoke regarding this historic structure. However, I would encourage all of you to go the County Legislative meetings on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. Speak to your city representatives; Barbara Jeter- Jackson, Rob Rollison, Steve White and the members of the County Legislature. They are making this decision and bringing it forward, not the City of Poughkeepsie. We do not own the property. We do not own over 300 abandoned properties that face the city. While you're over at the County Legislature, please tell them how concerned you are as a city resident and taxpayer because the County is proposing to cap the sales tax distribution which goes to the cities, villages and towns. That loss to the City of Poughkeepsie is about \$2 million. On top of the shortfall that the city already faces with delinquent property tax collection, delinquent water & sewer bill payments, rising pension cost and rising healthcare and of course the mandates that come from Albany and feds without any help and support. As I projected in August, we're looking at a \$4 million shortfall as we put together the 2013 Budget. The people of this City would not be able to sustain a 26% tax increase. I see the families that come into the City and meet with the Commissioner of Finance, that meet with me that cannot make their payments that we have now. The Council last year adopted a budget of 2% tax cap increase. We wouldn't be able to sustain that type of increase. If you think we have 300 properties now, there would be even more. We are going to work very hard and diligently over these next few weeks with our department heads. On October 15<sup>th</sup> at noon, I will present a balanced budget to the people of the City of Poughkeepsie and then it will be handed over to the Common Council for their review and deliberation at that time. We face great challenges, not just in the City but in the state and country. Tough decisions have to be made and they are not easy decisions. We appreciate everyone's support,

comment, and input as we go through this budget process. I appreciate many of our workforce and labor unions coming out and speaking tonight as well. The three other bargaining units that aren't here tonight, will make their case and situations known. Going forward we have tough times on our hands. We are faced with what I believe is a \$4 million deficit as I projected in early August. Half of that comes from the loss in sales tax revenue from Dutchess County. Please make every effort to also tell your legislature show important that revenue is to the City of Poughkeepsie. Thank you. This concludes my comments this evening.

## **VI. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**Chairwoman Johnson-** I am concerned by the Mayor's vetoes as representing a breach in the governmental harmony which has this year produced such notable advances for the City such as the Historic Preservation Ordinance, and the facilitation of the Dutton development and the wonderful park to be built around the Hoffman House at the Upper Landing.

I have read the Mayor's veto messages carefully and take each one seriously but I find each one of them deeply flawed.

Veto Number One- The argument is simply wrong that granting the Council a room to meet with groups of constituents or organizations impinges on separation of powers between the executive branch and legislative branches. It only requests a room in City Hall, which is not the property of the Mayor but belongs to the city. We merely ask the Mayor to designate which room, a courtesy, not a command.

As in the federal government, the legislative and executive branches, and Congress has the right to oversee executive departments and to establish or abolish them. The Mayor argues that the meeting room should not be granted because the Council has never had one, it is only part time, and should conduct its business in an open forum. These arguments are baseless. The lack of such room is precisely why we ask for remedy, the Mayor's position itself is only part time yet he has given himself a luxurious suite of offices, and he conducts the majority of Mayoral business in private, behind its closed doors.

Veto Number Two- The Mayor's argument that campaign finance reform would have "no effect on the quality of life of our constituents" is seriously blinkered. The role of massive campaign contributors has corrupted political life on all levels. Our resolution does not itself seek to reform this troubling situation but only offers moral support to Governor Cuomo's initiative for public financing.

Veto Number Three- The Council resolution to allow limited smoking in parking lots is misinterpreted by the Mayor as intended to increase the prevalence of smoking and the well known dangers of second hand smoke. Its intent is exactly the opposite. It aims to adjust and strengthen a law which was totally unenforced. No tickets were

issued, to my knowledge, for smoking in a park, the parks are still as littered as always with cigarette butts, and smoking clearly continues unabated. And any law that is unenforced brings all laws into disrepute. If some people need to smoke, and it is a serious, harmful addiction, they should be restricted to a designated area, as they are in most venues, and they should be duly and reasonably prosecuted for any transgression. We must meet the needs of all our constituents.

All Councilmembers will, in the 30 days allowed us, following the vetoes will study in depth the arguments on both sides of these issues and return to this chamber with our decisions.

I would also like to thank the following people who volunteered at the King Street Park Festival, Mr. Stevie, The Thomas Family, Miss Marguerite, Ms. Karen Princvalli, Ms. Mae Parker Harris, Richie from Recreation, Mr. Milo Bunyi, Mayor Tkazyik, NYS Assemblyman Frank Skartados, Congresswoman Nan Hayworth. My big sponsors Shoprite and Price Chopper for making the King Street Park Festival and the official ribbon cutting of our new Playground Fitness System a huge success. And a special thank you to Bill for a great dedication sign.

This concludes Chairwomans comments.

## **VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- 1. A motion was made by Councilmember Rich and seconded by Councilmember Parise to receive and print.**

### **RESOLUTION (R-12-69)**

#### **INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER RICH**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie request that the Historic Districts and Landmarks Preservation Commission seek input by means of a public hearing regarding the proposed demolition of the Nelson House; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Common Council requests the Commission not make any determination until such time as all persons in the community are heard regarding the building.

#### **SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SOLOMON**

Official Common Council Minutes of October 1, 2012

R12-69			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled		Councilmember Herman	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Mallory	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Perry	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Solomon	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Parise	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Boyd	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Rich	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Councilmember Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**VIII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:**

**IX. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. **FROM HERBERT WALLACE, ESQ.,** a notice of intent for Mill House Panda to renew its Liquor License. **Referred to Corporation Counsel**
2. **FROM MAUREEN E. GARDNER,** a notice of property damage sustained on September 18, 2012. **Referred to Corporation Counsel**

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Councilmember Boyd** – I still have unanswered questions regarding the extension of the Ice House. I have taken a picture about a week and a half ago. I spoke to Jim Nelson, the head of the WAC, and he had informed me that he did not know anything about this extension. He also informed me that he was never asked by anybody in the Mayor’s Administration about this extension. At the moment, he is in Rome and he will meet with me after he gets back and we will discuss this extension and what WAC and the Common Council will do about the extension of the Ice House. I feel that it’s a very serious problem we have here. We, the Common Council, did not vote on the extension. We had no idea that the extension even existed. We have a very serious problem.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – I would like an update on the Gleebe house.

**Commissioner of Finance Bunyi** – The Gleebe House contract has been awarded. I met with Ms. Kopstein. I am meeting this week with Mr. DuPilka and the Historical Society so we can schedule a timeline when these people start to work together.

**Councilmember Boyd** – I received a phone call on 5 West Winding Road regarding the curb she was supposed to receive in the fall. I believe we are in the fall. She called and said her curb is still not in.

**Commissioner of Finance Bunyi** – I will check on that.

**Councilmember Solomon** - There was a lot of talk tonight about the change in personnel on the Historic Preservation Committee. I got many calls today about the

bus system, the Nelson House and the fireworks that were on Saturday. I hear that Tom O'Neil is no longer on the Planning Board. I would like a list of the members of the Historic Preservation Committee and the Planning Board.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – Vice Chair Rich was given a list of all the new appointees to the Historic Preservation Commission at the request of your caucus. There are 7 members. 6 of the 7 terms were up in July when I gave you all the names. 1 member resigned. There are 3 returning members. The Planning Board is still intact. All members are current. Tom O'Neil is still chairman. As far as the fireworks, they did receive a permit, but were in violation of the noise ordinance and Legion will be getting a warning for that.

**Councilmember Rich** – When I received my list via chair, I had sent emails to everyone. As far as I know, everyone received on.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – I have a question regarding the unified bus system with the loop and the study that is being conducted. Are you saying that they are doing this study and there is a possibility that both City and Loop bus will merge?

**Mayor Tkazyik** – We are reviewing that.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – So if this study comes back and it is suggested that they merge the two, who will be in control of the bus service? Wouldn't it be the County?

**Mayor Tkazyik** – That is premature at this time.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – CDBG – A lot people were talking about the sidewalk repairs. Why are we giving the County our CDBG to administer?

**Mayor Tkazyik** – There is no formal proposal on the table.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Will all this be brought out on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – Possibly. Let's talk about the reduction in federal support in relation to how much we can put towards curbs and sidewalks. In the 8<sup>th</sup> ward, you don't get anything based on the census tract. We are waiting to see the new census of 4<sup>th</sup> ward. However, prior to the curbs and sidewalks being done this way, the City used to bond \$500,000 - 600,000 to do ward repairs. Now we depend on CDBG funds to do it. We receive the money in July, the contractor didn't start until before Labor Day.

**Councilmember Perry** – It is nice to see so many citizens coming out this evening. One thing that I noticed that you are concerned about is the Nelson House. Where is everyone that is responsible for that building who sat back and held their hands and allowed to deteriorate. There had to be someone who noticed it was in disrepair and something should have been done about it. Here we are many years later. The

building is closed off and boarded up. No life in that building. Anyone knows that if a building is left with no repair and closed off, it will deteriorate. No we are faced with this major problem of demolishing it. Taking away a building that is of historic significance. If we restore it, it will be at a very high cost. That's a problem on both sides. So what do we do? Regarding the bus, I have had so many calls about the bus system. Where there is smoke, sometimes a fire shows up. I don't know what is happening with the bus system. I have to trust what the mayor is saying. I hope that the people that use the bus will not be deprived of this service. It is unfair to continue to take things away from the poor. I don't support that at all. In the matter of the Gleeb House, I think that it should be fixed because that is an historic building. There are so many things that need to be fixed here in the City. It's good to see all the sanitation workers here tonight. I see them as men & women in uniform just like police and firefighters. These are people that we need to provide services to the City. We have the beautiful Walkway over the Hudson. It's important to keep this City clean so visitors come to the City. Thank you all for coming. You were heard this evening.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Corporation Counsel Ackermann, I would like the status of the Transit Hub.

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – The only update that I know of at this time is that the SEQRA has been completed. That is the last action that the Council took.

**Chairwoman Johnson** - So they will not be coming back here for a vote?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** - The approval has already to be done. The only thing that the Council had remaining to do was the SEQRA which was completed at the last Council meeting.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Are they are moving forward with the shelters?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – Whether or not they are moving forward, I can't answer that. I know that the last action by the Council was the SEQRA.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – They are going to be doing the job, correct?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – I don't believe there is any further approval necessary regarding the Transit Hub by this body. All the approvals were done prior to the last action by the Council which was the SEQRA resolution.

**Councilmember Perry** – Are we saying there will be no more hearings regarding the Transit Hub?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – The only hearing that this body had was with regard to SEQRA. The approval of the Transit Hub, the financing of the Transit Hub was all done by this body prior to the SEQRA.

**Councilmember Rich** – Can you tell me when the Council voted approving the Transit Hub? I thought they were going to come back with some changes that we thought might be useful.

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – I believe that the Council did request changes and I believe they were taking that into consideration. That is a question for the City Engineer.

**Councilmember Rich** – When did the Council approve the Transit Hub?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – I don't have that in front of me but it would have been by a prior resolution.

**Commissioner of Finance Bunyi** - All the federal grants that were approved for funding the Transit Hub, were approved by the Common Council. There are about 4 grants that the Council approved to accept the money from the federal government to build this Transit Hub.

**Councilmember Boyd** – How much money is the City putting into this Transit Hub?

**Commissioner of Finance Bunyi** - Depending on the bid, it's somewhere around \$200,000- \$300,000. That's a maximum match. Some of that could be in kind.

**Councilmember Mallory** – What is our obligation for that match? When you say that it is in kind, when do we have to make that commitment?

**Commission of Finance Bunyi** – I'm not sure of the timetable. I can get back to you on that.

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – When the Council adopts the Federal Transportation Acceptance Grants, at that time the City commits to that matching grant. That would be in the same resolution as the funding.

**Councilmember Boyd** – I have a question regarding the garbage lawsuit and I still haven't gotten an answer. Apparently, we have an investigator investigating the garbage routes. We paid this company X amount of dollars. We still haven't gotten an answer from the administration regarding how much we have paid for this.

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – I apologize for that. I believe the Commissioner of Finance did send that figure to me and I didn't forward it to you. I can do that as soon as this meeting is over.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Corporation Counsel Ackermann, what is the process now of the Historic Commission in regards to the Nelson House?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – The County has made an application for a permit to demolish the Nelson House. The building inspector would then forward it to the Historic Preservation Commission. They have scheduled a meeting for October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Can you please explain who owns the Nelson House. What roll does the City play in the Nelson House, if any.

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – The Nelson House is owned by the County. The County administration has made a decision that the building is imminent danger to public health. They will request of the County Legislature to approve the funding of the demolition of the structure. They have made an application to the City for appropriateness which will be entertained by the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission. That is the only involvement that the City will have with regard to the demolition of the Nelson House.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Is there a rush for this process since a majority of this commission is new and they may not have elected officers yet?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – The application has been received by the City. I believe there is a time frame when the Commission has to act by either approving or denying it. By approving it with conditions would be the only time frame that the City would be concerned with. It's been something that the County is concerned about liability and their time frame may be different than the City's time frame.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Mayor Tkazyik, don't you find it interesting that they decided to have their meeting on Thursday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, when generally they generally they meet on Wednesday in the evening and they are having it the same Thursday that the County is having their meeting to discuss this. They're having their meeting at 5:30 and the County is having theirs at 4:00.

**Councilmember Boyd** – What kind of experience does the County Public Works department have regarding demolition of a public building? Don't we have to have both State and Federal come in? What kind of experience does the staff have?

**Corporation Counsel Ackermann** – I can't comment on the experience of the staff at County Public Works. It's my understanding that the County has spent a significant amount of money on reports of whether or not the building could be saved and at what expense. Those reports were presented to the County Administration to make their determination as to how to move forward. I would assume that those reports would have to be shared with the County Legislature and they would make the determination to fund the demolition of the Nelson House.

**Councilmember Perry** - Yesterday I was contacted by several people on Dubois Avenue asking me about what kind of construction was going on. I went there to look. I couldn't tell you if there is a building going up or they are clearing it. There

is no number for me to tell you. When I ask the people in the area, they also didn't know if it was 2 or 3 lots on DuBois Avenue.

**Councilmember Perry** – The building on N. Hamilton Street that is supposed to be called the Blue Note/Club Royale, is there any kind of status that I can take back to my ward to let them know when it will be demolished.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – I met with the gentlemen a few weeks ago with then City Administrator Long . The owner advised us of financial constraints due to losing a partner in that project. He received all board approvals in that development. We did recommend other ideas and agencies that he may be able to collaborate with moving forward. We did urge him how important it was to demolish the property as it is especially during the winter months.

**Councilmember Perry** - I believe the winter months will dictate what happens to the building. The immediate neighbor indicated to me that he thinks it is sagging towards his house. If the neighbor's house is affected by a dilapidated building, I think there should be some urgency with this building. The Nelson House is no worse off than this house. There are a lot of people who are homeless.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Councilmember Boyd** – How much money has the City spent with Royal Carting? I understand that from January to now and I understand that there was trouble with tires on our truck. How much are they charging the City per day and exactly how much money we have spent for Royal Carting?

**Commissioner of Finance Bunyi** – We will get you the numbers.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – I would like to know from Mayor Tkazyik, if it were to snow tomorrow, would we be prepared to remove snow with our own trucks and vehicles.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – I believe Commissioner DuPilka can answer this.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – You are the mayor of this City, you run this City. You should know as the head of the executive branch of government if it were to snow tomorrow, how will you handle the situation? That is your responsibility.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – It is my responsibility and you were given the answer.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – What is the answer for those who are sitting here that may not have heard the answer.

**Mayor Tkazyik** - We are prepared for the winter storms and you were told that two weeks ago. You seem have a lapse of memory.

**Chairwoman Johnson** - You are being rude and disrespectful. There are a lot of people who beg to differ who have a long line of broken down trucks at DPW compound. They really don't agree with what you are saying.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – I'm sorry they don't agree.

**Chairwoman Johnson** - Hopefully, we won't see Royal Carting or some other privatized company plowing our streets.

**Councilmember Mallory** – Last Saturday was a community block day party. I just want to thank the host of volunteers and elected officials that showed up for a very magnificent sign contributed by donations and volunteer work from the Exempts, their members and others in the community . I want to thank Sen. Steve Saland, Frank Skartados, County Exec. Marc Molinaro, Mayor Tkazyik, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Rich, County Legislature Barbara Jeter-Jackson, City Historian George Lucas for attending. I want to thank Acting City Administrator, Milo Bunyi, for making a smooth transition and for the police dept for making it very successful. I want to thank our sponsors Price Chopper, Stewarts, John Flowers, Yvonne Flowers, LCS, Exempt Fireman's, City of Poughkeepsie, Rich and his assistant Mike, Take Five Deli, M & O Sanitation, Sam's Club & River Station. I want to thank all who attended.

**Councilmember Perry** – Now that we are on the subject of block parties, there will be one in the 5<sup>th</sup> ward next Saturday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>. I want everyone who is sitting here to come out. We're going to have a nice day. I want the whole city to come and enjoy College Hill.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – I see you have a beautiful flyer here. We also have A Taste of Little Italy on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilmember Parise** – There's a lot of great food, a lot of local vendors in Mt. Carmel Place. We will have a great tenor singing. Come enjoy the Great Italian music and Heritage. This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual. Previous 2 were very successful. Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 10 am to 7Pm.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – On Saturday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at College Hill Park, from 12-4, Sunday Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Carmel Place from 10 – 7. Now we can move to Councilmember Solomon for her event.

**Councilmember Solomon** – On Saturday Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> at Bartlett Park. This will be an event geared toward young children. We will have a petting zoo, Melody the Clown, Bouncy Houses, slide, pony rides, and face painting by Essence and Bob Martinson's Band in the afternoon. Please come it will be a lot of fun.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Autumn in the Park, in Bartlett Park, Saturday Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Councilmembers Solomon's Annual Event 12 – 4pm.

**Councilmember Solomon** – This is the 24<sup>th</sup> Autumn in the Park. It was the first of the park events. It was started by a young Nancy Cozean.

**Councilmember Parise** – The following Sunday after Autumn in the Park, it's time for the Pulaski Day Parade. It begins at the Italian Center and ends at Pulaski Park. Line up is at 11:30, we kick off at 12. We're going to have the laying of the wreath on the monument, brief remarks from invited guest, and directly following the Great Polka Family Band from 2 - 6 at the Italian Center. Admission is free.

**Chairwoman Johnson** - We attend and this is such a great event. We march in the parade. Tell us about after the parade at the Italian Center.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – There will be hotdogs, soda and free entertainment. We want to thank all the groups who participate and the Italian Center for allowing us to host the event there this year.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – Does someone want to go over the 2013 Budget Review Session Schedule?

**Mayor Tkazyik** – After discussion in the leadership meeting, we have the proposed review sessions for the Council to review. We would like to get these dates posted in the paper so the public is made aware of the sessions. The dates have all been confirmed by department heads who will present; Wed, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, Thurs. Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> and Mon. Oct 22 @5:30 pm and depending on how the sessions go, if needed, there will be additional sessions.

**Councilmember Solomon** - Can we call you tomorrow, I have to check my calendar.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – We have to get this in the paper.

**Councilmember Solomon** – Give us until tomorrow.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – It's up to the Chair.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – I believe you should call the mayor. Is there a certain time you need to know by tomorrow?

**Mayor Tkazyik** – I believe that is up to you if you want to move the dates if it's one member out of eight that can't attend, they are your sessions.

**Chairwoman Johnson** – We will make that decision once Councilmember Solomon checks her schedule.

**Mayor Tkazyik** - Please let us know, call Erian in the morning.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by **Chairwoman Johnson** and **Councilmember Rich** seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

**Dated: January 25, 2013**

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, October 1, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**City Chamberlain**



**COMMON COUNCIL MEETING**

Common Council Chambers

Monday, October 1, 2012

6:30 p.m.

*6:15 p.m. Public Hearing regarding proposed  
Franchise Agreement with Time Warner Cable*

**I. ROLL CALL**

**III. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

**IV. READING OF ITEMS by the City Chamberlain of any resolutions not listed on the printed agenda.**

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three (3) minutes per person up to 45 minutes of public comment on any agenda and non-agenda items.**

**VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

**VII. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**VIII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**IX. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:**

**X. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- 3. FROM HERBERT WALLACE, ESQ.,** a notice of intent for Mill House Panda to renew its Liquor License.
- 4. FROM MAUREEN E. GARDNER,** a notice of property damage sustained on September 18, 2012.

**XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

